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AUTOMATICITY AND PRESENTATIONS OF SEMIGROUPS *

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In this article, we make a survey of automaticity and presentations of semigroups.

1. Presentations of semigroups

Definition 1 (1) Let X be finite alphabets and R a subset of $X^+ \times X^+$. Then R is called a string-rewriting system.

(2) For $u, v \in X^+$, $(w_1, w_2) \in R$, $uw_1v \Rightarrow_R uw_2v$.

The congruence μ_R on X^+ generated by \Rightarrow_R is called the Thue congruence defined by R .

(3) A semigroup S is (finitely) presented if there exists a (finite) set of X , there exists a surjective homomorphism ϕ of X^+ to S and there exists a (finite) string-rewriting system R consisting of pairs of words over X such that the Thue congruence μ_R is the congruence $\{(w_1, w_2) \in X^* \times X^+ \mid \phi(w_1) = \phi(w_2)\}$.

In this case, we say that S has a presentation by X and R denoted by $S = \langle X : R \rangle$.

Definition 2 A semigroup S has a presentation with finite [resp. regular, context-free] congruence classes if there exists a finite set X and there exists a surjective homomorphism ϕ of X^+ to M such that for each word $w \in X^+$, $\phi^{-1}(\phi(w))$ is a finite [resp. regular, context-free] language.

Definition 3 A semigroup S is called residually finite if for each pair of elements $m, m' \in S$, there exists a congruence on S such that the factor monoid S/μ is finite and $(m, m') \notin \mu$.

*This is an abstract and the paper will appear elsewhere.

Definition 4 A semigroup S is called *residually finite* if for each pair of elements $m, m' \in S$, there exists a congruence on S such that the factor monoid S/μ is finite and $(m, m') \notin \mu$.

Result 1 ([9]). If a finitely generated semigroup S has a presentation with regular congruence classes, then S is residually finite.

Definition 5 Let M be a monoid and m an element of M . The syntactic congruence σ_m on M is defined by $s\sigma_mt$ ($s, t \in M$) if and only if $\{(x, y) \in M \times M \mid xsy = m\} = \{(x, y) \in M \times M \mid xty = m\}$.

The factor monoid M/σ_m is called the syntactic monoid of M at m .

Result 2 ([9]) Let S be a finitely generated semigroup.

Then S has a presentation with finite congruence classes if and only if the following are satisfied :

- (1) S has no idempotent.
- (2) For any $s \in S$, S/σ_s is a finite nilpotent semigroup with a zero element 0.

2. Automatic semigroups

Definition 6 Let $X(2, \$) = (X \cup \{\$\}) \times (X \cup \{\$\}) - \{(\$, \$)\}$, where $\$$ is padding symbol.

$$\nu : X^* \times X^* \longrightarrow X(2, \$)^* \quad ((u, v) \mapsto (u\$, v\$))$$

$$\text{where } \max(|u|, |v|) = \max(|u\$|, |v\$|) \text{ and } \nu(\epsilon, \epsilon) = \epsilon.$$

$$\text{e.g. : } (abba, bbabab) \mapsto (a, b)(b, b)(b, a)(a, b)(\$, a)(\$, b)$$

Definition 7 A semigroup S is called *automatic* if the following conditions hold ;

- (1) There exists a regular language $L(\subseteq X^*)$ and a surjective map $\nu : L \rightarrow S$ ($w \mapsto \overline{w}$). (X, L) is called a rational structure of S .
- (2) $A_a = \nu(\{(w, w') \in L \times L \mid \overline{wa} = \overline{w'}\})$ is a regular language over $X(2, \$)$ for each $a \in X \cup \{\epsilon\}$.

In this case, $(L, A_a(a \in X \cup \{\epsilon\}))$ is called an automatic structure.

Result 3 ([1]) *An automatic semigroup with a rational structure (X, L) has a rational structure (X, L') with uniqueness.*

That is, there exists a regular language $L'(\subseteq L \subseteq X^)$ and a bijective map $: L' \rightarrow S$ ($w \mapsto \bar{w}$).*

Result 4 [1] *The followings hold ;*

- (1) *Automatic groups are finitely presented.*
- (2) *The semigroup $\langle x, y : xy^i x = xyx (i > 2) \rangle$ is automatic but is not finitely presented.*

Result 5 ([5]) *Automaticity of monoids is preserved by taking any change of generators.*

However, this is not the case for semigroups.

For $w = a_1 \cdots a_n \in X^+$,

we denote $w(t) = a_1 \cdots a_t$ if $t \leq n$, $w(t) = a_1 \cdots a_n$ if $n < t$.

Definition 8 *A semigroup(group) S with a rational structure (X, L) has the fellow traveller property if there exists a constant k such that the Cayley graph Γ of S with generators X , whenever $d(w(t), w'(t)) < k$ for all $t \geq 1$ if $d(w, w') \leq 1$.*

(the distance function $d(w, w') = \min\{|z| \mid z \in X^* \text{ with } \bar{w}z = \bar{w}' \text{ or } \bar{w} = \bar{w}'z\}$)

Result 6 (1) *A group G with a rational structure (X, L) is automatic if and if G has the fellow traveller property. (See [6])*

(2) *If A semigroup S with a rational structure (X, L) is automatic, then S has the fellow traveller property. (See [1])*

(3) *The semigroup S^0 (an non-automatic semigroup S with an adjoined zero 0) has the fellow traveller property, but is not automatic. (See [1])*

3. Exsamples of automatic semigroups and non-automatic semigroups

Example 1 *Finite groups, finite semigroups, Hyperbolic groups, finitely generated commutative groups.*

Example 2 *Finitely generated commutative semigroups, hyperbolic semigroups are not always automatic.*

Result 7 ([6]) *For the Baumslag-Solitar group $BSG(m, n) = \langle x, y : yx^m = xy^n \rangle$, we have*

- (1) *$BSG(m, n)$ is not automatic if $m \neq n$.*
- (2) *$BSG(m, n)$ is automatic if $m = n$.*

Result 8 ([2]) *For the Baumslag-Solitar semigroup $BS(m, n) = \langle x, y : yx^m = xy^n \rangle$, we have*

- (1) *$BS(m, n)$ is automatic if $m > n$.*
- (2) *$BS(m, n)$ is left automatic if $m > n$.*
- (3) *$BS(m, n)$ is non-automatic if $m = n$.*

Result 9 ([3]) *The monogenic free semigroup FA_x does not have any rational structure with uniqueness.*

4. Automaticity and presentations with context-free congruence classes

Result 10 ([3]) *Let S be a finitely generated subsemigroup of virtually free group G . Then S is a semigroup having a presentation with context-free congruence classes.*

Result 11 ([3]) *Finitely generated subsemigroups of virtually free groups are automatic.*

Result 12 *Bicyclic monoid $\langle a, b : ba = \epsilon \rangle = \langle a, b, e : ba = e; ae = ea = a, be = eb = b \rangle$ is automatic and has a presentation with context-free congruence classes.*

Result 13 ([1]) *The fundamental four-spiral semigroup $SP_4 = \langle a, b, c, d : a^2 = a, b^2 = b, c^2 = c, d^2 = d,$*

$ba = a, ab = b, bc = b, cb = c, dc = c, cd = d, da = d \rangle$ is automatic.

Moreover, every finitely generated subsemigroups of SP_4 is automatic.

5. Problems on commutative automatic semigroups

Result 14 ([7]) *The finitely generated commutative semigroup $\langle a, b, x, y : aax = bx, bby = ay, ab = ba, ax = xa, ay = ya, bx = xb, by = yb, xy = yx \rangle$ is not automatic.*

Question. *If a finitely generated commutative semigroup S has a presentation with finite congruence classes, then is S automatic?*

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